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## NICARAGUA.

*Report from Bluefields—Fruit port.*BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *April 27, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended April 26, 1902:

Present officially estimated population, 4,000. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 1. Prevailing diseases, none. The 1 death above noted was from old age. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, very good.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: April 23, steamship *Utstein*, crew, 15; number of passengers from this port, none; number of passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. April 26, steamship *Nicaragua*, crew, 18; number of passengers from this port, none; number of passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully,

D. W. GOODMAN,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

## PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

*Reports from Manila.*MANILA, P. I., *March 20, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that 1 case of plague was reported in Manila, P. I., for the two weeks ended March 15, 1902, occurring in a Chinese with fatal results.

No smallpox was reported for this period.

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY,  
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,  
Chief Quarantine Officer for the Philippine Islands.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*Cholera in Manila—Its introduction—Cases and deaths.*MANILA, P. I., *March 30, 1902.*

SIR: Confirmatory of my telegram, "Cholera is now present Manila, 18. Think the disease was introduced by vegetables, Canton. The local board of health is taking all necessary steps to control. Quarantine rigid," of the 23d instant, I have the honor to report as follows relative to the occurrence of cholera in Manila, the progress of the disease to date, and the rules and regulations enforced to prevent its spread:

I think cholera had existed in Canton, China, for some time before its presence was reported, and during this period the Canton vegetables were permitted to be landed in Manila. This city is the greatest vegetable market in the Orient, as nothing of that character is produced here, all such supplies have to be imported, and all green vegetables

such as cabbage, celery, lettuce, and cauliflower have come from the Canton districts.

Assistant Surgeon Kerr, on duty in Hongkong, cabled March 3, that cholera was present in Canton and immediately stopped the shipment of all articles prohibited by the regulations from cholera-infected ports, but evidently vegetables admitted prior to knowledge of the disease in Canton introduced the infection. If information had been received one month sooner no doubt the introduction of the disease could have been prevented. It is both my opinion and that of the board of health that cholera gained entrance into Manila from this cause.

As soon as cholera appeared in Hongkong, I considered the situation of sufficient gravity to impose quarantine on all vessels arriving from that port and Amoy, as the former city is only forty-eight hours distant. This was at first counted from date of departure, but upon the appearance of the disease in Manila and in order to be absolutely certain, I imposed a quarantine of five days after the disinfection at Mariveles, also disinfecting at the same time the water tanks and removing all suspected Chinese food products.

No cases have developed on ships arriving from Hongkong, and comparatively few Chinese have been affected. The disease has been among the natives almost exclusively.

The first cases occurred on March 20, 1 of which can be traced to what is known as the Farola district, a small peninsula bounded by the Pasig River and Manila Bay. This small section contained about 400 nipa shacks, filthy in the extreme, and was the worst center of infection. More than one-half of the cases have occurred in this section and the immediate surroundings.

Upon the confirmation of the diagnosis of cholera by careful bacteriological tests and examinations, the board of health immediately instituted energetic measures to combat the disease.

The city was already divided into sanitary districts and inspection work was daily carried on in order to detect any plague cases that might occur, and a detention camp large enough to accommodate 2,000 people had recently been completed. In addition to the above, new stations were established in all sections of the city, the number of inspectors and physicians increased many times, and the inspection work carried on with vigor night and day. Every case of illness was examined and all that were suspicious were immediately sent to hospital. Cholera cases were sent to cholera hospital, and all contacts and suspects immediately sent to the detention camp, the infected house being at once disinfected, closed, and placed under guard. In this way the cases were secured early and the contacts caught before they had time to escape. In a few days, the number of cases continuing to increase in the Farola district, the property was appraised and burned, thereby destroying the worst foci. Immediately after this the daily number of cases commenced to diminish.

A cordon was immediately thrown around the city, ferry boats and passenger trains were stopped, and all passengers going to the neighboring provinces either by rail or small boat required to secure a permit from the board of health. All old wells and cisterns in the city were closed, and a guard was placed on the river supplying the city with water in order to prevent pollution and infection. All green vegetables in the city and markets that were considered as liable to convey the disease were bought and destroyed. People were advised by circular of the precautions to be taken, and distilled water was furnished free at different stations throughout the city.

The quarantining of the city against the provinces was immediately put into effect in order to prevent an exodus of people, and to prevent, if possible, the spread of the disease to other places in the islands. I immediately declared a five days' quarantine for all vessels leaving Manila for the United States ports or other places in the Philippine Islands and copies of circular letters sent to agents of vessels are inclosed for your information. Of course, everything was at a standstill for a few days, but trains are now running, and the island boats are now leaving after their five days' detention. I have instructed the officers at Iloilo and Cebu, and made pertinent suggestions to the acting health officers at the other ports of entry in the islands.

The daily number of cases and deaths from the disease, as well as the nationalities affected, is shown by the table below :

Date.	Number of cases.			Total—	
	Filipinos.	Chinese.	Europeans.	Cases.	Deaths.
March 20.....	4	.....	.....	4	3
March 21.....	4	1	.....	5	5
March 22.....	4	.....	.....	4	4
March 23.....	7	1	.....	8	4
March 24.....	13	.....	1	14	12
March 25.....	14	.....	.....	14	12
March 26.....	11	1	.....	12	8
March 27.....	11	1	.....	12	9
March 28.....	5	1	.....	6	4
March 29.....	4	1	.....	5	4
Total.....	77	6	1	84	65

The situation at date of writing is encouraging. The board of health is using every measure to eradicate the disease, and I think their efforts will be crowned with success.

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY,

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,  
Chief Quarantine Officer for the Philippine Islands.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*Circulars to steamship agents.*

MANILA, P. I., March 22, 1902.

SIR: In view of the fact that 6 suspected cases of cholera have occurred in Manila during the past two days, and in order to prevent the disease being carried to other ports in the Philippine Islands, I have to inform you that all vessels sailing from Manila for other island ports must comply with the following regulations before a bill of health will be granted :

1. The vessel must be thoroughly cleaned ; cabins and forecastles must be repainted, if necessary, and all cockroaches and vermin killed.

2. All water taken on board for the use of crew and passengers must be boiled.

3. All passengers and crew must have a certificate from the board of health.

4. All food products, vegetables especially, taken as cargo or for consumption on board, must be accompanied with a certificate from the board of health.

5. All passengers or crew taken sick during voyage with cramps or diarrhea must be separated from other persons and not allowed to use the water-closet. All matter passed by such sick persons must be kept in urinal and 5 per cent solution of carbolic acid added in quantity equal to the discharge and kept three hours before throwing overboard. All clothing and bedding soiled by those sick must be immediately boiled.

6. All vessels will anchor in the bay and wait for inspection before bill of health is granted.

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7. Captains of ships must keep vessels clean during voyage, and any boat arriving in dirty condition will be sent to Mariveles for disinfection.

This order will go into effect immediately and continue in force until further notice.

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY,  
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,  
Chief Quarantine Officer for the Philippine Islands.*

The STEAMSHIP AGENTS, *Manila, P. I.*

MANILA, P. I., *March 23, 1902.*

SIR: You are hereby informed that all vessels leaving Manila for other ports in the Philippine Islands will be quarantined for five days before being allowed to sail, and the following rules, in addition to those already promulgated, will be enforced:

All the provisions of previous order of the 22d instant will be rigidly enforced except clause No. 3, and the following regulations must be obeyed:

1. All vessels after loading cargo and with passengers and crew on board must proceed into the bay and anchor far over to the right of the usual anchorage for incoming ships.

2. Must keep ladders raised and fly yellow flag continuously.

3. No one can leave or visit the ship except the quarantine officer.

4. Any violation of the regulations will meet with summary prosecution of the guilty parties and the penalty of fine and imprisonment will be inflicted.

5. In case of emergency and the necessity of supplying additional water and provisions, permission will be granted for communication under the direction of the quarantine officer.

6. No communication between the different ships will be allowed under any circumstances, and violations of this regulation will make it necessary to detain the vessels an additional five days in addition to inflicting the penalties on the guilty parties.

Respectfully,

J. C. PERRY,  
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,  
Chief Quarantine Officer for the Philippine Islands.*

The STEAMSHIP AGENTS, *Manila, P. I.*

#### PORTO RICO.

#### *Reports from Ponce.*

PONCE, P. R., *April 21, 1902.*

SIR: Through the chief quarantine officer for Porto Rico, I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract of bills of health reports for the week ended April 19, 1902.

Of 6 vessels which entered during the week, 3 were inspected and passed and 3 were held in quarantine, as follows: French steamship *St. Domingue* on the 17th, from Port au Prince, Jeremie, Les Cayes, Jacmel, Santo Domingo, and Mayaguez; 30 pieces of baggage and 2 sacks of mail from Hayti and Santo Domingo were disinfected, and 24 pieces were inspected and passed. The provisional flag steamship *Julia* on the 18th, from Havana, Nuevitas, Gibara, Sagua la Grande, Santiago, Santo Domingo, and Macoris; 84 pieces of baggage and 1 sack of mail from Santo Domingo were disinfected, and 66 pieces, principally from Cuba, were inspected and passed. The Spanish steamship *Montevideo* on the 18th, from Havana, Port Limon, Colon, Sabanilla, Puerto Cabello, and La Guayra. Five passengers from La Guayra were permitted to disembark. Seven bills of health were issued during the week.

The local board of health admitted 15 new cases to the smallpox hospital and have 7 cases in quarantine in private houses during the past week, making in all 31 cases under treatment, as none of the 9 previously reported were discharged.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,  
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*